



## **Position Announcement Research Associate, Human-Natural Systems**

The Research Associate (RA) will be responsible for guiding and actively engaging in the development and implementation of the Center for Ocean Solutions (Center) work on advancing research, knowledge and capacity of integrated human-natural systems and implementation of the social dimensions of ocean environments into ecosystem-based management approaches in ocean and coastal management. We seek a creative individual with expertise in a relevant social science discipline (e.g., geography, anthropology, economics, sociology, psychology, political science, planning) and the ability to effectively organize and choreograph interdisciplinary teams on cross-cutting issues. The work of the RA will address the social dimensions of ocean environments and integrated ocean policy and management, focusing on a variety of issues including ecosystem services, social-ecological/coupled human-natural systems, sustainable fisheries, climate change impacts and adaptation, cumulative impacts, conservation planning, and related areas. Consistent with the mission of the Center, we seek a person with experience and/or interest in both advancing scientific frontiers and addressing real-world challenges of sustainability in coastal and ocean environments. This work will overlap with and augment ongoing projects in our Ecosystem Health, Climate Change and Land-Sea focal areas, as well as integrate with of our Leadership Development and Education work; therefore, careful coordination with the Center's teams working within those areas will be crucial to success in this position. The RA also must be able to proficiently and effectively guide and manage interdisciplinary teams comprised of staff with diverse backgrounds and varied skill sets. The RA will build upon the work of the Center's current projects and the expertise of its partners. The RA will also help develop new projects with guidance from the Center's Directors and in collaboration with investigators from its collaborating institutions. The RA will be a vital link between and among the Center's researchers and collaborators and decision makers from the public, private and NGO sectors, with the express charge to ensure that research and project development are designed and carried out to meet actual decision maker needs. The RA will be responsible for shaping projects and related research agendas, and creating and implementing a funding strategy to support the work of the Center. The RA will work with the Center's staff, project faculty, researchers and collaborators to compile competitive, interdisciplinary grant proposals as well as develop communications and education and training strategies to ensure effective implementation that results in tangible change to the coast and ocean. The RA will also be responsible for mentoring the Center's Early Career Fellows (recent PhD or JD recipients), research analysts, and interns working on the Center's projects.

### **Qualifications:**

The successful candidate will have a PhD or JD in a related field with at least four to six years' relevant working experience. Candidates should have strong working knowledge of social-ecological systems,

with a focus in human dimensions of coastal and ocean research and management, and demonstrated real-world application of the concepts from integrated human-natural systems theory and research into policy and management, or at least evidence of strong capacity and potential for making those linkages. Preference will be given to those with empirical and analytical skills for gathering and working with social data, experience with qualitative and quantitative analytic methods, and a network of relevant ocean science and policy experts. Candidates must possess strong leadership skills and ability to work effectively with staff at many levels as a colleague or supervisor, as well as work successfully with a variety of faculty and researchers in connecting across ecological and social science disciplines, developing project ideas, and embedding science in management and policy. Candidates must also have demonstrated project management experience as well as outstanding written and verbal communications skills, strong networking and relationship-building skills, and a track record and ability to secure funding. The successful candidate will be a self-starter, with the ability to work independently and as a member of a team. Future opportunity for advancement to Senior Research Associate is possible with exceptional performance and availability of funding.

### **About the Center for Ocean Solutions:**

The Center for Ocean Solutions works to solve the major problems facing the ocean and prepares leaders to take on these challenges. A collaboration among Stanford University's Woods Institute for the Environment and Hopkins Marine Station, the Monterey Bay Aquarium and the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), the Center focuses on coastal and ocean ecosystems in the natural, physical and social sciences. We draw on a pool of more than 80 scholars across the three institutions and collaborate with other academic, governmental and non-governmental organizations to tackle interdisciplinary and multi-sectoral problems, bringing leading experts in marine science and policy together with decision makers.

The Center is an equal opportunity employer. We make employment decisions without regard to political affiliation, race, religious creed, color, age, sex, gender identity, genetic information, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, religion, marital status, medical condition, political or religious opinions, physical or mental disability, military service, pregnancy, childbirth and related medical conditions, or any other non-job related factor.

The Center is committed to including a diversity of people and organizations in our work to develop robust solutions to ocean challenges. We aim to make our projects inclusive, to engage diverse perspectives and to equitably represent those whom our solutions affect. We strive to nurture diversity in the workplace because we understand that diversity is critical for achieving our organization's mission and vision. Stanford is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

**To be considered, interested candidates will provide a cover letter and resume to Stanford Careers website, job identification number 66648, at <http://stanfordcareers.stanford.edu/>.**